

## SJ-15 Study Matrix revised 10-22-13

	<b>A. Identify Risks &amp; Concerns</b>  (June-Oct)	<b>B. Identify Desired Correction and/or Condition</b>  (Sept-Oct)	<b>C. Identify Barriers Currently Preventing Correction</b>  (Oct-Nov)	<b>D. Brainstorm &amp; Explore Solutions</b>  (Nov-March)	<b>E. Develop Action Items</b>  (April-August)
	INFRASTRUCTURE: Excessive wildfire fuel loads due to insect, disease, and/or lack of active management place infrastructure on or near federally managed lands at risk - including electrical transmission lines, transportation facilities, communication towers, water systems, and other utilities.	Active & immediate vegetation management to protect transmission lines from wildfire, wind, ice storms	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lack of Funding</li> <li>2. Obstructive Litigation</li> <li>3. Unfavorable Policy</li> <li>4. Rough Terrain, Limited Access</li> </ol>		
	NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES: Excessive wildfire fuel loads due to insect, disease, and/or lack of active management on federally managed lands in Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) place neighboring public and private property, facilities, infrastructure and communities at risk.				
	WATER: Excessive wildfire fuel loads and intense wildfires on federally managed lands threaten, poison, and/or physically impair municipal drinking water supplies as well as water supplies for residential, recreational, agricultural, and other uses outside municipal watersheds. Watersheds are not being managed to maximize water yield.				
	FISH & WILDLIFE: Large, intense fires on federally managed lands kill fish & wildlife, destroy habitat, poison water, and cause displacement which adversely impacts surviving populations of wildlife beyond the burned area.				

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
COUNCIL. 2013-14  
SJ-15 Work Group

October 24, 2013

Exhibit No. 01

	AIR QUALITY: Significant health risks and adverse impacts to Montana citizens and visitors due to high volumes of smoke/toxic air pollution generated by large, intense fires on federally managed lands. Prolific and lingering smoke restricts activities, displaces people from their homes and communities, impedes scenic views, and disrupts tourism.				
	MUTIPLE USE ACCESS REDUCTIONS: Decommissioning and closing roads and trails severely diminishes access for desirable multiple use activities including resource management, sustenance and recreational uses, emergency ingress/egress, and commercial extraction of natural resources.				
	INVASIVE PESTS, DISEASE, AND NOXIOUS WEEDS: Proliferation of invasive pests, disease, and noxious weeds is prevalent on federally managed lands.				
	PILT, SRS, ROYALTIES: The substitute funding sources counties rely upon are unreliable and unpredictable due to dependency on renewed congressional approval and the ability of the federal government to pay. PILT & SRS equate to a very low percentage of actual taxable value & resource production capabilities.				
	INADEQUATE FUNDING: Inadequate federal funding and/or prioritization for proper resource management, wildfire fuel reduction, wildfire rehabilitation, maintenance and repair of infrastructure, multiple-use access, and fire suppression.				

	SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY: Inaccurate, selective, biased, and/or outdated science and technology is being used in resource management plans, reports, administrative rules, federal policies, decisions, and enforcement.				
	MISSION CONFLICT: Several federal laws, executive orders, and rules are in conflict with the original purpose and authority related to federal land acquisitions, federal reservations, and the mission of managing agencies. This has resulted in contradictory policies and management constraints that are sometimes adversarial to the environment, economy, as well as public health, safety, and welfare.				
	HABITAT CAPACITY: USFWS does not consider range or carrying capacity of habitat on federal lands when determining target populations of predators and wildlife.				
	YPN BISON— populations expanding beyond Yellowstone National Park boundary into Montana, creating jurisdictional questions and management problems for the state of Montana.				
	USFSW is not considering adverse impact of predators on Sage Grouse populations. Comprehensive management considerations associated with multiple species seems lacking.				

	TIMBER INDUSTRY VIABILITY: Although an over-abundance of timber exists in many national forests, the viability of timber and wood products industries and related jobs and infrastructure are threatened by bureaucratic impediments, declining forest health, and unpredictable supply due to federal policies, litigation and administrative costs, and management constraints.				
	OWNERSHIP: Federally managed public lands might be sold or collateralized to private parties or foreign nations without state legislature's consent.				
	OWNERSHIP: Checkerboard pattern of federal lands makes management and public access difficult.				
	UNFAVORABLE TIMBER MANGEMENT: Unmanaged, overpopulated timber stands contribute to insect infestations, declining timber health, drought, intense wildfire, reduced watershed yields, and adverse effects on wildlife habitat. Policies favoring weak, less useful timber like pine instead of stronger more useful fir and larch are bad for commercial supply. Not cutting in accordance with sustained yield capabilities.				
	ADVERSE IMPACTS OF ESA: Adverse impact on state, counties, private property, industry, lives, and livelihoods associated with protected species policies and the magnitude of unknown costs and consequences. Arbitrary listings. Slow-cumbersome delisting process.				

	NON-ESSENTIAL CLASSIFICATION: Lands and resources critical to Montana's economy and environment , and many Montana's way of life and happiness, have been deemed non-essential and shut down by the federal government.				
	UNSUSTAINABLE ECONOMICS: Revenues generated by BLM go to DC Treasury. USFS no longer generates positive revenues.				
	PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: Notification and decisions, policies, meeting formats, length of documents, and technical procedures favor paid participation and disenfranchise average citizens leaving local residents, land owners, forest users, and small communities feeling overwhelmed and powerless.				
	OWNERSHIP: Unconstitutional acquisitions and contradictory retention policy versus enabling act/statehood compact.				
	SHUTDOWN: Another shutdown of the public lands and treasured places controlled by the federal government.				
	JURISDICTION: Confusion over jurisdiction.				